

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated October 20, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claim 1 is hereby amended. Accordingly, claims 1-30 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 1-6 and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 8-11, 15-20, and 23-30.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Kanesaka et al. (JP Pat. Pub. No. 06-265919) in view of Shimada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,020,867). This rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Rejecting claim 7, the Examiner acknowledges cites Kanesaka et al. as allegedly teaching “a liquid crystal display device including ... [a] printed circuit board ... and a shielding case for housing the ... printed circuit board.... [wherein the] shielding case ... is provided with an opening ... [that is] coated with [a] sealing cover.” The Examiner acknowledges that Kanesaka et al. fails to disclose “the required elastically deformable cover portion” and attempts to cure this deficiency by relying on Shimada et al. Specifically, the Examiner cites Shimada et al. as allegedly disclosing “a display apparatus where in Fig. 12, cover ... [201] includes an elastic portion.” Concluding, the Examiner asserts it would have been obvious to “include the required elastic cover portion in Kanesaka et al. as taught by Shimada et al. ... to have a liquid crystal display apparatus with higher reliability.” Applicant, however, respectfully disagrees.

For example, Applicant agrees that Kanesaka et al. fails to disclose “the required elastically deformable cover portion,” as acknowledged by the Examiner. Applicant submits, however, that Kanesaka et al. also fails to teach or suggest what is actually claimed (e.g., wherein a covering structure includes at least one elastically deformable region). Moreover, while the item designated at reference character 243 of Shimada et al. is an “elastic member,” Shimada et al. merely discloses wherein the elastic member 243 is applied onto the lower surface

of the cover 201 (see Shimada et al., column 14, lines 29-37) and, therefore, fails to teach or even suggest wherein a region of the cover 201 includes an elastically deformable region. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Shimada et al. fails to cure the deficiency of Kanesaka et al. with respect to what is actually recited in claim 7. To reiterate, claim 7 recites, among other elements “a covering structure over the PCB, the covering structure comprising at least one elastically deformable region.” Applicant respectfully submits neither Kanesaka et al. nor Shimada et al., singly or in combination, teach or suggest at least this feature as recited in claim 7. For at least this reason, Applicant requests withdrawal of the present rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Iizumi (U.S. Patent No. 4,850,228) in view of Shimada et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Rejecting claim 12, the Examiner cites Iizumi as allegedly teaching “a pressure meter including a casing, a semiconductor pressure sensor... a passage for introducing fluid under pressure to the pressure sensor, [and] a display mounted on one side of the casing for displaying a fluid pressure.” The Examiner acknowledges that Iizumi fails to disclose “the required elastically deformable cover portion” and attempts to cure this deficiency by relying on Shimada et al. Specifically, the Examiner cites Shimada et al. as allegedly disclosing “a display apparatus where in Fig. 12, cover ... [201] includes an elastic portion.” Concluding, the Examiner asserts it would have been obvious to “include the required elastic cover portion in Kanesaka et al. as taught by Shimada et al. ... to have a liquid crystal display apparatus with higher reliability.” Applicant, however, respectfully disagrees.

For example, Applicant agrees that Iizumi fails to disclose “the required elastically deformable cover portion,” as acknowledged by the Examiner. Applicant submits, however, that Iizumi also fails to teach or suggest what is actually claimed (e.g., a shield cover of a device having at least one device component (see preamble) including at least one elastically deformable region, wherein the at least one device component is selectively exposable by the at least one elastically deformable region). Moreover, while the item designated at reference character 243 of Shimada et al. is an “elastic member,” Shimada et al. merely discloses wherein

the elastic member 243 is applied onto the lower surface of the cover 201 (see Shimada et al., column 14, lines 29-37) and, therefore, fails to teach or even suggest wherein the cover 201 includes at least one elastically deformable region capable of selectively exposing any device component. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Shimada et al. fails to cure the deficiency of Iizumi with respect to what is actually recited in claim 12. To reiterate, claim 12 requires a shield cover including “at least one elastically deformable region, wherein at least one device component of a LCD device is selectively exposable by the at least one elastically deformable region.” Applicant respectfully submits neither Iizumi nor Shimada et al., singly or in combination, teach or suggest at least this feature as recited in claim 12. For at least this reason, Applicant requests withdrawal of the present rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

As set forth in M.P.E.P. § 2143.03, if an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious. In view of the arguments presented above, Applicant submits that claim 12 is nonobvious under § 103. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 13 and 14, which depend from claim 12, are also nonobvious under § 103.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Takeishi (U.S. Patent Application No. 2001/0005240) in view of Shimada et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Rejecting claim 21, the Examiner cites Takeishi as allegedly teaching “a signal processing circuit board ... with [a] variable resistor ... [that] is not limited to one particular location for the installation where a signal processing board includes a board body, a variable electronic element and a hole.” The Examiner acknowledges that Takeishi fails to disclose “the required elastically deformable cover portion” and attempts to cure this deficiency by relying on Shimada et al. Specifically, the Examiner cites Shimada et al. as allegedly disclosing “a display apparatus where in Fig. 12, cover ... [201] includes an elastic portion.” Concluding, the Examiner asserts it would have been obvious to “include the required elastic cover portion in Kanesaka et al. as taught by Shimada et al. ... to have a liquid crystal display apparatus with higher reliability.” Applicant, however, respectfully disagrees.

For example, Applicant agrees that Takeishi fails to disclose “the required elastically deformable cover portion,” as acknowledged by the Examiner. Applicant submits, however, that Takeishi also fails to teach or suggest what is actually claimed (e.g., wherein a shield cover includes at least one elastically deformable region spaced over at least one device component on a PCB). Moreover, while the item designated at reference character 243 of Shimada et al. is an “elastic member,” Shimada et al. merely discloses wherein the elastic member 243 is applied onto the lower surface of the cover 201 (see Shimada et al., column 14, lines 29-37) and, therefore, fails to teach or even suggest wherein a region of the cover 201 includes an elastically deformable region spaced over any device component on a PCB. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Shimada et al. fails to cure the deficiency of Takeishi with respect to what is actually recited in claim 21. To reiterate, claim 21 recites, among other elements “a printed circuit board (PCB) ...; at least one device component on the PCB; and a shield cover on the PCB, the shield cover including at least one elastically deformable region spaced over the at least one device component.” Applicant respectfully submits neither Takeishi nor Shimada et al., singly or in combination, teach or suggest at least this feature as recited in claim 21. For at least this reason, Applicant requests withdrawal of the present rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

As set forth in M.P.E.P. § 2143.03, if an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious. In view of the arguments presented above, Applicant submits that claim 21 is nonobvious under § 103. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 22, which depends from claim 21, is also nonobvious under § 103.

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

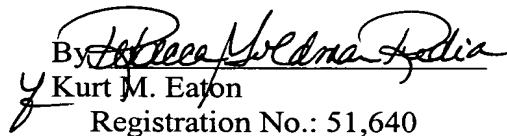
Application No.: 10/025,910
Amendment filed on January 19, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated October 20, 2004

Docket No.: 8733.539.00

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: January 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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